

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Presently Amended) A mounting apparatus for a telescope, comprising:
 - a mount for attachment to the telescope, the mount providing a non-circular groove;
 - a non-circular rail insertable in the groove of the mount;
 - an adjustable platform providing a second non-circular groove, adaptable for mounting a photonic receptor device axially parallel to a longitudinal optical axis of the telescope on said rail;
 - whereby the photonic device is configured to be mounted and adjusted to align the photonic device on the longitudinal optical axis of the telescope; and
 - an opaque hood to cover a space formed between an eyepiece of the telescope and the photonic receptor device following alignment.
2. ~~— (previously presented) The mounting apparatus of claim 1 further comprising an opaque hood to cover a space formed between an eyepiece of the telescope and the photonic receptor device following alignment.~~
3. (previously presented) The mounting apparatus of claim 1 wherein the mount for attachment to a telescope comprises:
 - a rear cell adapter providing a throat for engagement of an eyepiece of the telescope;
 - a yoke compressively fitted around said rear cell adapter; and,
 - a non-circular groove on said yoke for engagement with a mounting rail.
4. (previously presented) The mounting apparatus of claim 1 wherein the non-circular rail comprises:
 - a lightweight elongate square member providing a groove therethrough whereby a wrench is configured to be inserted through the rail; and,
 - a space for insertion of a locking device on each end of the non-circular rail whereby the rail may not be inadvertently removed from the groove of the mount.

5. (previously presented) The mounting apparatus of claim 1 wherein the adjustable platform comprises:
 - a second groove adaptable for insertion and retention of the rail;
 - a means for movement of photonic receptor in each of the axes perpendicular to the longitudinal optical axis of the telescope; and,
 - a means for tilting the photonic receptor in the longitudinal optical axis of the telescope.
6. (previously presented) An apparatus to record distant images, the apparatus comprising:
 - a telescope, said telescope having an eyepiece, said eyepiece defining a first optical axis;
 - a mount for attachment to said telescope adjacent said eyepiece, the mount providing a yoke;
 - said yoke configured to receive a proximal end of a non-circular rail, said non-circular rail defining a rail axis;
 - an adjustable platform configured to mount a camera, the camera having a second optical axis;
 - said adjustable platform configured to be mounted upon a distal end of said non-circular rail; and
 - said adjustable platform is configured such that said second optical axis is axially parallel to said first optical axis and a distance between said eyepiece and said camera is adjustable along said rail axis.
7. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said rail axis is substantially parallel to said first optical axis.
8. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said distance between said eyepiece and said camera is covered by an opaque hood.
9. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said non-circular rail includes a threaded hole and a corresponding set screw to prevent accidental removal of said non-circular rail from said yoke.

10. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said non-circular rail includes a threaded hole and a corresponding set screw to prevent accidental movement of said non-circular rail relative to said camera.
11. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said adjustable platform is configured to allow said camera to be manipulated in a plane perpendicular to said second optical axis.
12. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said adjustable platform is configured to allow said camera to be tilted in said second optical axis.
13. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said camera is a still camera.
14. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said camera is motion camera.
15. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said camera is a film camera.
16. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said camera is a CCD camera.
17. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said telescope is a Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope.
18. (currently amended) An apparatus to mount to a telescope, the apparatus comprising:
 - a mount for attachment to the telescope wherein the telescope defines a first optical axis, the mount configured to receive a rail, said rail defining a rail axis;
 - an adjustable platform configured to mount a camera, the camera having a second optical axis;
 - said adjustable platform configured to be mounted upon said rail; and

said adjustable platform is configured such that said second optical axis is substantially axially parallel to said first optical axis and a distance between said an eyepiece and said camera is adjustable along said rail axis.

19. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said adjustable platform is configured to allow said camera to be manipulated in a plane perpendicular to said second optical axis.

20. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6 wherein said adjustable platform is configured to allow said camera to be tilted in said second optical axis.